

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 16-38 and 54-77 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-15, 39-53 and 77 were canceled; claims 16-38 and 54-76 were withdrawn; no claims were amended; and claim 78 was added. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner has rejected claim 77 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed towards non-statutory subject matter. Final Office Action dated October 17, 2008, pp. 5-6. Claim 77 was canceled. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

II. 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claim 77 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter, which applicants regard as the invention. Final Office Action dated October 17, 2008, pp. 3-4. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 77 has been canceled. Therefore, the rejection of claim 77 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, has been overcome.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 103, Obviousness

The Examiner has rejected claim 77 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over “XACCT Technologies Enables Usage-based Billing for Internet; NSPs Can Now ‘Right-Price’ IP-Based Applications” (hereinafter XACCT) in view of Saari et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,338,046 (hereinafter Saari). Final Office Action dated October 17, 2008, pp. 7-9. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 77 is canceled. New claim 78 is presented. Support for new claim 78 is found in the specification and drawings as follows:

A computer implemented method for processing a plurality of data into an output summarizing a consumption of a resource for a particular unit of work in an on-demand service environment, comprising:	FIG. 2; FIG. 3; FIG. 4; [0009], lines 1-2
gathering a plurality of usage data, wherein each of the plurality of usage data measures a consumption of a resource in the on-demand service environment;	[0038]
sending the usage data to a database through a web services interface;	FIG. 3, 204; FIG. 4, 204; FIG. 6, 204
processing the usage data into a raw record having a required information section and an attributes section;	FIG. 5, 228, 230; [0047], lines 1-2
saving the raw record into a record table, an attribute table, and a unit of work table, wherein the record table is linked to the attribute table by a first key, and the record table is linked to the unit of work table by a second key;	FIG. 8; FIG. 9; FIG. 10; [0047]-[0049]
determining when a particular unit of work's status changes to a closed status, and responsive to the particular unit of work's status changing to the closed status, identifying a plurality of raw records associated with the unit of work;	FIG. 10, 156; FIG. 11, 404, 408; [0059] - [0060]
obtaining a rule for each of the plurality of raw records;	FIG. 11, 420, 426; [0059], lines 1-2
calculating, using the rule for each of the plurality of raw records, the output summarizing the consumption of the resource for the particular unit of work;	FIG. 11, 424; [0063], lines 1-2
storing the output with the raw records in the database, wherein the format of a first format of the output is the same as a second format of the raw records.	[0049], lines 1-4

Applicants submit that the cited prior art, individually or in combination, is silent as to the following limitations:

- processing the usage data into a raw record having a required information section and an attributes section;
- saving the raw record into a record table, an attribute table, and a unit of work table, wherein the record table is linked to the attribute table by a first key, and the record table is linked to the unit of work table by a second key;
- determining when a particular unit of work's status changes to a closed status, and responsive to the particular unit of work's status changing to the closed status, identifying a plurality of raw records associated with the unit of work;
- obtaining a rule for each of the plurality of raw records;
- calculating, using the rule for each of the plurality of records, the output summarizing the consumption of the resource for the particular unit of work; and
- storing the output with the raw records in the database, wherein the format of a first format of the output is the same as a second format of the raw records.

Therefore, the rejection of claim 77 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 has been overcome.

IV. Objection to Claims

The Examiner objected to claim 59 as being duplicative of claim 69. Claims 59 and 69 are canceled.

V. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the cited references and is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,

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